

Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: [Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators \(53-4021\)](#)

Associated Occupation: [Locomotive Firers \(53-4012\)](#)

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

| | |
|----|--|
| << | Focus occupation element is much lower |
| < | Focus occupation element is lower |
| 0 | Focus occupation element is at a similar level |
| > | Focus occupation element is at a higher level |
| >> | Focus occupation element is at a much higher level |

Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 85

Focus Occupation: Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators (53-4021)

Associated Occupation: Locomotive Firers (53-4012)

| Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements | Average Rating, All Occupations | Associated Occupation's Rating | Focus Occupation's Rating | | Evaluation of Focus Occupation |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----|---|
| Transportation | 4.6 | 12.9 | 14.2 | > | Current knowledge level is likely sufficient |
| Mechanical | 6.8 | 12.4 | 9.5 | << | Extensive education and/or training may be required |
| Public Safety and Security | 6.9 | 11.8 | 10.4 | < | Expanded education and/or training may be required |

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 90

Focus Occupation: Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators (53-4021)

Associated Occupation: Locomotive Firers (53-4012)

| Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements | Average Rating, All Occupations | Associated Occupation's Rating | Focus Occupation's Rating | | Evaluation of Focus Occupation |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----|--|
| Operation Monitoring | 6.6 | 12.7 | 9.6 | << | Extensive development of skills in this area may be required |
| Operation and Control | 5.4 | 12.0 | 9.2 | << | Extensive development of skills in this area may be required |
| Troubleshooting | 4.5 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 0 | Current skill level may be sufficient |
| Equipment Maintenance | 3.5 | 6.6 | 3.4 | << | Extensive development of skills in this area may be required |
| Repairing | 3.4 | 6.0 | 3.7 | << | Extensive development of skills in this area may be required |

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 87

Focus Occupation: Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators (53-4021)

Associated Occupation: Locomotive Firers (53-4012)

| Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements | Average Rating, All Occupations | Associated Occupation's Rating | Focus Occupation's Rating | | Evaluation of Focus Occupation |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----|--|
| Far Vision | 7.8 | 13.8 | 12.8 | 0 | Current ability level may be sufficient |
| Reaction Time | 4.8 | 13.0 | 10.1 | << | Extensive improvement in abilities may be required |
| Selective Attention | 8.7 | 12.2 | 9.2 | << | Extensive improvement in abilities may be required |
| Control Precision | 6.6 | 11.8 | 10.7 | < | Some improvement in abilities may be required |
| Response Orientation | 4.0 | 11.4 | 8.1 | << | Extensive improvement in abilities may be required |
| Glare Sensitivity | 2.6 | 7.6 | 7.0 | 0 | Current ability level may be sufficient |
| Night Vision | 2.1 | 6.4 | 4.4 | << | Extensive improvement in abilities may be required |
| Peripheral Vision | 2.2 | 6.4 | 4.9 | < | Some improvement in abilities may be required |
| Sound Localization | 2.2 | 5.8 | 4.5 | < | Some improvement in abilities may be required |

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 86

Focus Occupation: Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators (53-4021)

Associated Occupation: Locomotive Firers (53-4012)

| Work Activities | Exclusivity of Activity |
|--|-------------------------|
| Inspect railroad equipment | 89 |
| Monitor railroad vehicle or equipment operation | 89 |
| Perform safety inspections in transportation setting | 62 |
| Signal directions or warnings to coworkers | 42 |
| Understand railroad signals | 89 |
| Use two-way radio or mobile phone | 42 |

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: n/a

Focus Occupation: Railroad Brake, Signal, and Switch Operators (53-4021)
Associated Occupation: Locomotive Firers (53-4012)

| Tools and Technologies | Exclusivity |
|------------------------|-------------|
|------------------------|-------------|

| | |
|---|--|
| Tools and technology data is unavailable for one or both occupations. | |
|---|--|

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.